



കേരള ഗസറ്റ് KERALA GAZETTE

അസാധാരണം EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Home(B)Department

NOTIFICATION

G.O.(P).No.36/2024/Home

Dated,Thiruvananthapuram,30th March 2024

In pursuance of the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 30.01.2024 in WP(C)No.406/2013, the Government of Kerala hereby constitute a committee each in all Districts with the structure mentioned in the Schedule-I below, for the purposes mentioned in the Schedule-II below, namely:-

SCHEDULE-I

- Principal/District Judge (Chairperson of the District Legal Services Authority)
- District Magistrate (In charge Administrative Head of the District on Executive Side)
- Senior most lady Judicial officer



- (iv) Senior Superintendent/Superintendent of Police
- (v) Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority
- (vi) Superintendent(s) of Jail
- (vii) Superintendent, Women Prison and Correctional Home (if available) .

The Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority shall be the convenor of the Committee. The Committees shall convene its first meeting within two weeks from this notification.

SCHEDULE-II

The committees shall

1. assess the available infrastructure in jails and take a decision on the number of additional jails to be constructed in the Districts;
2. assess the current capacity of the existing jails and requirement of constructing more jails or enhancing the capacity of existing jails to meet the standard laid down in the Model Prison Manual, 2016.
3. keep in mind the requirement of incorporating Artificial Intelligence and introducing video conferencing for conducting Mulakaats and tele medicine facilities for the ease of the inmates.

The Committees shall initiate steps to examine the requirement of expanding the existing jails and acquiring land to set up new jails within the District, depending on the current capacity, occupancy and future demands of the District and come up with firm proposals. The Committees will also take an update on the status of all the ongoing projects/proposals that are pending in the Districts and ensure that milestones are set down for completing the ongoing projects. Wherever a project has yet to take off for want of land, steps be taken to identify the land for the purposes of acquisition and the report to be submitted to the Chief Secretary, for obtaining necessary approvals and fast tracking the process. The Committees are permitted to examine the needs of the respective Districts and make proposals over and above of those that have been laid down in the Model Prison Manual. However, the minimum requirements prescribed under the said Manual shall not be compromised. Future projections shall span over in a period of at least 50 years for implementation.



By order of the Governor,
BISHWANATH SINHA
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY

Explanatory Note

(This does not form part of the notification, but is intended to indicate its general purport)

On going through the compilation of responses received from the State Governments/Union Territories, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 30.01.2024 in WP(C)No.406/2013 (RE-INHUMAN CONDITIONS IN 1382 PRISONS), observed that the extent of overcrowding in the Central Jails/District Jails/Sub-Jails is over 10% of the permitted capacity. In some cases, the occupancy vis-a-vis the actual capacity of jails exceeds 40% to 50%. In order to address the issue on priority, the Hon'ble Supreme Court directed the State Government to constitute a committee in all Districts. To comply with the direction in the above order the Government have decided to constitute the committees, by notification.

The notification is intended to achieve the above object.

